



## TODD McMILLAN

### After the deluge

2011 | GRANTPIRRIE, Sydney; Lake Macquarie Art Gallery; Artspace, Sydney;

Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), Hobart

In 1832, Joann Wolfgang von Goethe, the German writer, poet and thinker, died unexpectedly whilst convalescing at home. In the moments before his passing he requested that his servant open the shutters, and tracing these through the air with his finger he spoke his final words – ‘more light’. Thomas Bernhard, the Austrian novelist and poet, tells a story of a man who was committed to a lunatic asylum because he claimed at every opportunity that Goethe’s last words were in fact ‘mehr nicht’, not ‘mehr licht’ – meaning ‘no more’ rather than ‘more light’. In *No More Light* I draw on ideas related to the sublime, inspired by Goethe’s last words exploring the poetics of ‘illumination’ and ‘absolute darkness’.

*No More Light* is composed of four video works: *After the Deluge*, *Whisky in the Kitchen*, *Thomas*, and *After Windermere*. Each used digitally altered analogue overhead projectors. Their illumination drew reference to Arthur Rimbaud’s uncompleted suite of poems *Illuminations* (1873–4), the order of which is still questioned today. The structure of *No More Light* also investigates non-linear narrative akin to Rimbaud’s symbolist poetry.

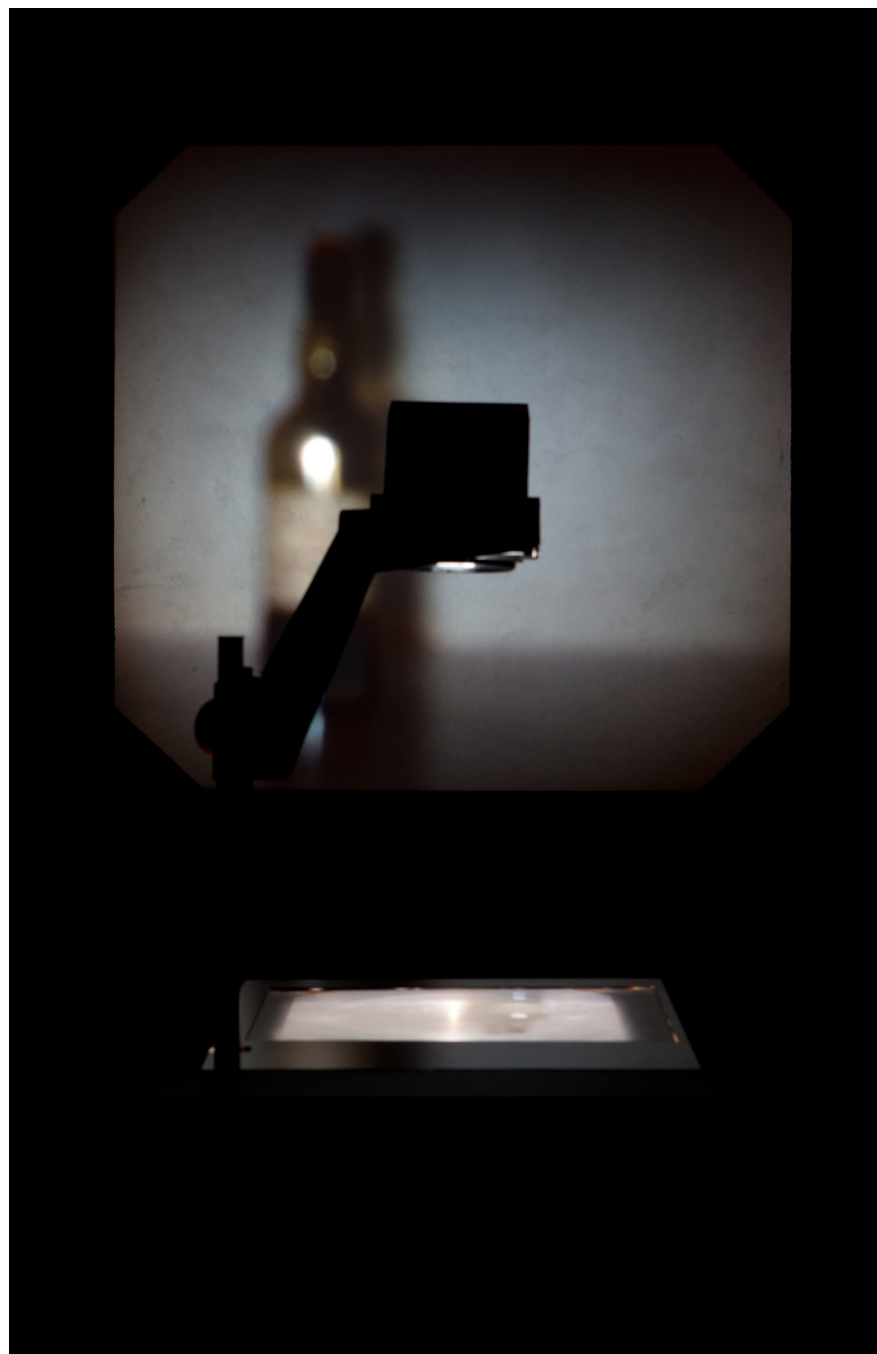
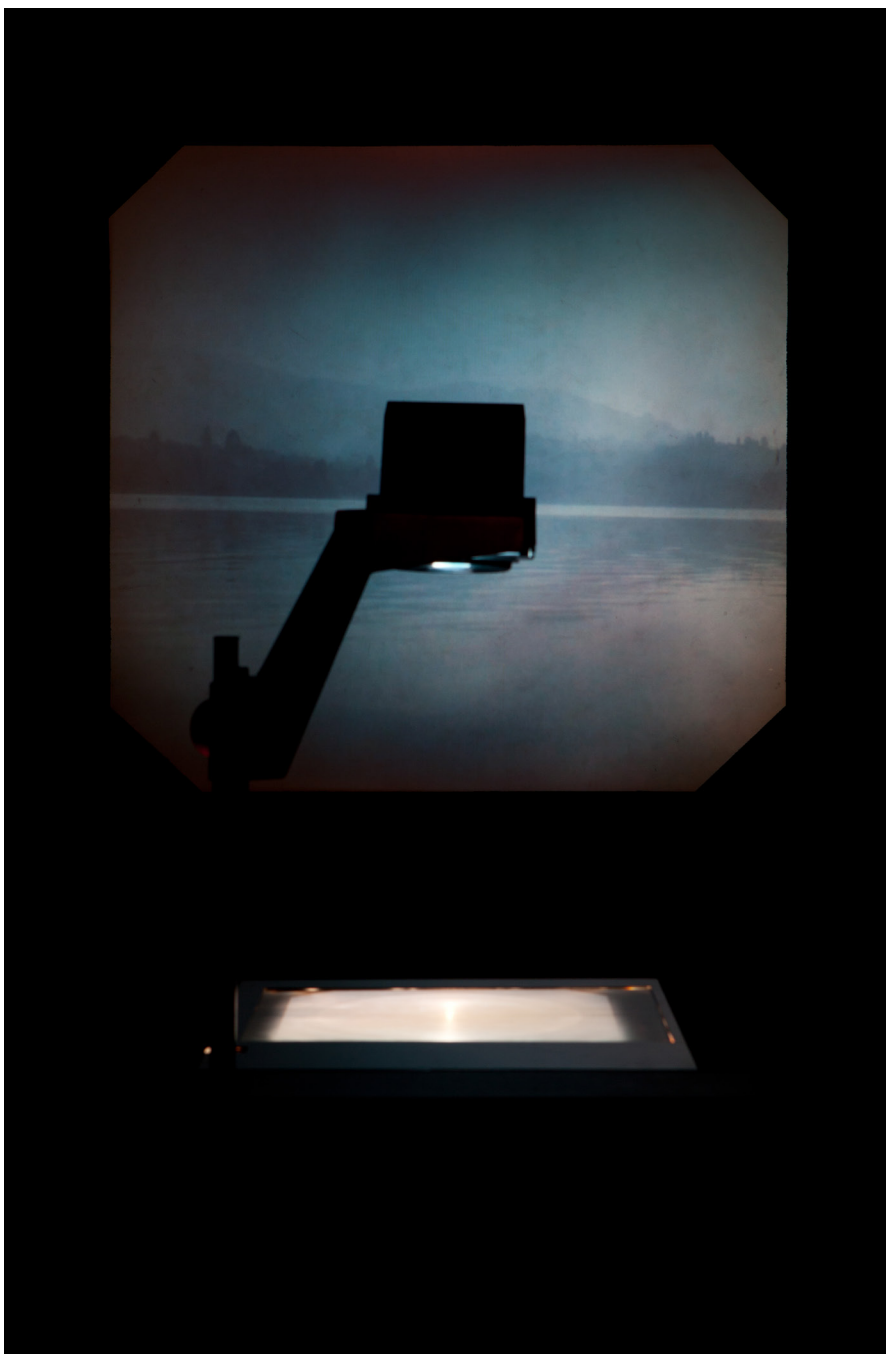
*No more light* was initially exhibited at GRANTPIRRIE, Sydney (12 May–18 June 2011). It was also included in the group exhibitions: *Where there is water*, Lake Macquarie Art Gallery curated by Merlyn Ryan; and *How Yesterday Remembers Tomorrow*, Artspace, Sydney. Most significantly *After the Deluge* was included in a ten year survey exhibition of my work, *Ten Years of Tears*, at the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), curated by Nicole Durling, 2013.

*After the deluge projection, detail*

**TODD MCMILLAN**  
*After the deluge*

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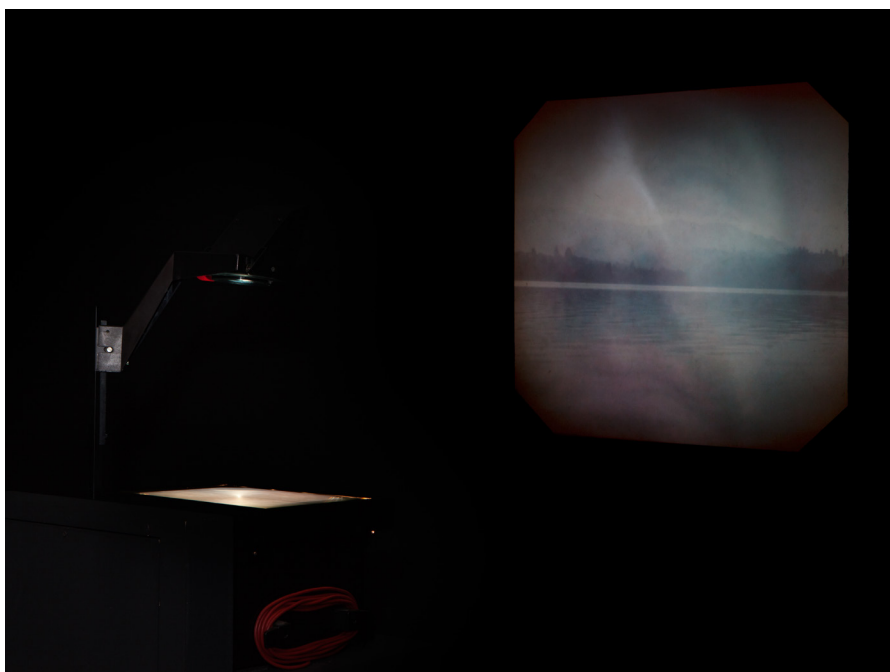
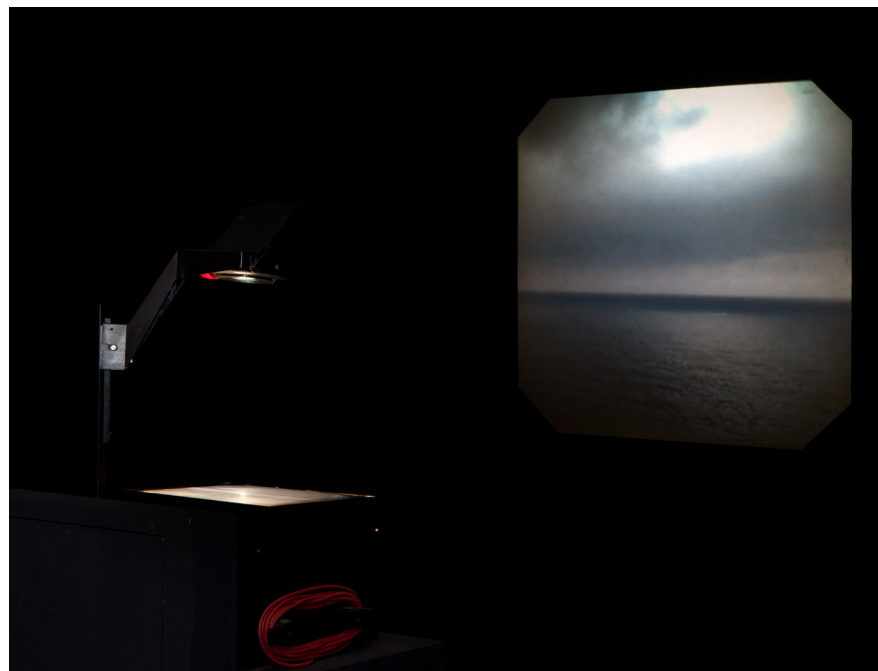
Installation views



**TODD MCMILLAN**  
After the deluge

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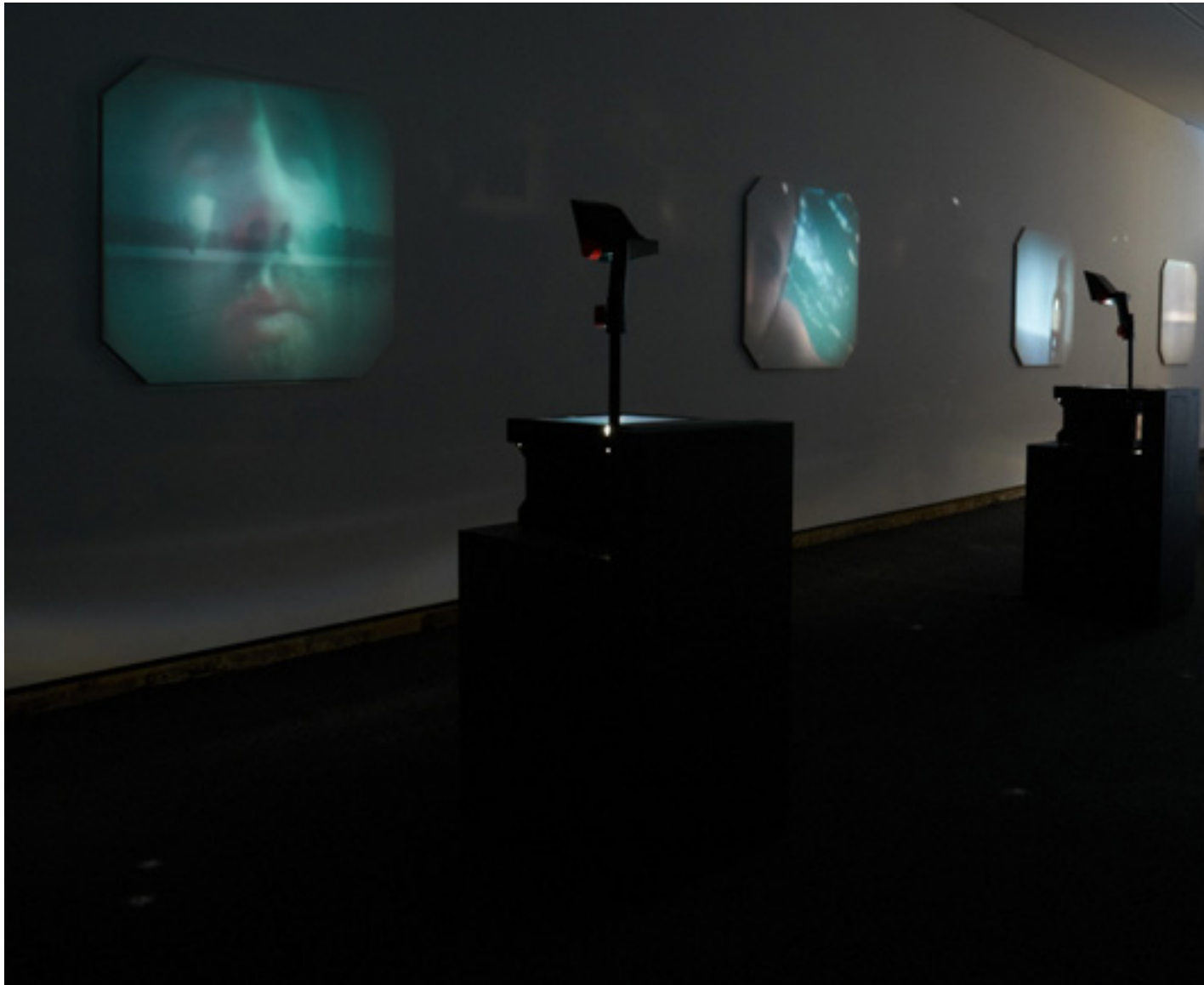
Installation views



**TODD MCMILLAN**  
*After the deluge*

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Installation view at Grantpirrie





**TODD MCMILLAN**  
*After the deluge*

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'After the deluge' in *Ten Years of Tears*, Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), 19 June - 16 September 2013





# TODD MCMILLAN

## After the deluge

Supporting evidence

Excerpts from Ten Years of Tears catalogue

Todd  
McMillan

Ten Years  
of Tears

Todd  
McMillan

Ten Years  
of Tears

Curated by  
Nicole Durling

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MUSEUM OF OLD  
AND NEW ART

### LIST OF WORKS

Todd McMillan was born in 1979 in Sydney, Australia, where he lives and works.  
All work are courtesy of the artist and Sarah Corrier Gallery, Sydney

#### By the Sea • 2004

Cinematographer: Andrew Liversidge  
16 mm film  
Duration 00:01:12, looped

#### Ague • 2009

Cinematographers: Michael Moran, Christopher Sharp, Christy Lee  
High-definition video, 3-channel work on 4:3 monitors  
Duration 00:17:00, looped

#### After the Deluge • 2010

Projector, projector plinth, high-definition video, media player  
Duration 00:26:40, looped  
Installation dimensions variable

#### Whiskey in the Kitchen (Our Still Lives for Elizabeth David and CH) • 2011

Cinematographer: Peter Humble  
Projector, projector plinth, media player, high-definition video  
Duration 00:04:16, looped  
Installation dimensions variable

#### Altarum • 2012

Assistant cinematographer: Peter Humble  
16 mm film  
Duration 00:15:40, looped

#### Centus I (Cloud Study & Molley Re-read) • 2012

High-definition video, archival ink on photo rag paper  
Duration 00:05:14, looped  
Framed component 29.7 x 21 cm

#### Drowning Studies • 2012

High-definition video  
Duration 00:04:22, looped

#### Flare • 2012

Cinematographer: Peter Humble  
16 mm film  
Duration 00:05:30, looped

#### Mountain Study • 2012

Created with Peter McNamara  
Assistant cinematographer: Peter Humble  
Projector, projector plinth, high-definition video, media player  
Duration 00:30:23, looped  
Installation dimensions variable

#### Deluge 2 • 2013

Cyanotype on paper  
42 x 29.7 cm

#### Homage (Study) • 2013

High-definition video  
Duration 00:14:06, looped

This publication accompanies the exhibition

#### Todd McMillan: Ten Years of Tears

Library Galleries  
Museum of Old and New Art  
Hobart Tasmania Australia  
18 June – 16 September 2013

#### Curator

Nicole Durling

#### Research Curator

Jane Clark

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AND NEW ART

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#### Supporting evidence

#### Excerpts from Ten Years of Tears catalogue

#### Video Link

#### Todd McMillan ‘no more light’ at Grantpirrie Gallery, Youtube,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wARD0UvVbhA>

